



Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Extension Council Meeting Minutes

Time and Place: A meeting of the Extension Council Board was held at 6 PM at the Mattoon Public Library on December 1, 2022, upon notice duly given.

Participants: Participating in the meeting in person were Jessie McClusky, Jim Sparks, Tom Webb, Scott Seegmiller, Gary Gergeni, Kelly Barringer, Dustin Hay, Brenda Stone, Ben Bushue, Nancy Purdy, and Travis Phelps, constituting a quorum for the transaction of business.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM, having determined that a quorum of the Board was present. Jim Sparks chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order. Jessie McClusky kept the minutes of the meeting.

Public Comment: No public attended; no comments made.

Approval of June 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes: The minutes were approved. Tom Webb moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Dustin Hay.

Extension Updates: Jessie McClusky presented to the Board an overview of Extension finances, personnel, facilities, and program area updates. Board asked several questions, which were answered, and discussion ensued.

Fiscal

1. Board reviewed the Trust and Smith-Lever reports.
2. Angela (Angie) Welker resigned from the 4-H Program Coordinator position on 9/30/22, her name needs to be removed from all Extension bank accounts as a signatory.
Dustin Hay moved to remove Angela (Angie) Welker from all Extension bank accounts as a signatory, seconded by Brenda Stone.

Personnel

1. The Moultrie-Douglas 4-H Program Coordinator position has been vacant since October 1, 2022 and search is underway. Position advertisement closed 11/30/22.
2. Team Training: Communicating for Superior Teamwork was held for the full team in November with the goal of enhancing appreciation for different communication styles, an understanding of how different communication styles in the workplace are a benefit, and how to effectively flex styles with others.



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Facilities

1. The move to the new Cumberland County location at 205 East New York Street, Toledo, IL is on hold due to lack of internet at the facility. Board asked several questions, which were answered to their satisfaction.

Educator Updates

Cheri Burcham, FCS:

Cheri and her team recently received the second place Innovation in Programming award at the annual National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences conference in September, and a Team Excellence award at the annual University of Illinois Extension conference held in November for her contributions in the Illinois Strong Couples program. The program is designed to provide free, proven online help for relationships to build greater connection, communication, etc.

Kim Morrison, 4-H Youth Development: School programs are in full swing with Welcome to the Real World, Your Thoughts Matter, and Etiquette courses at Charleston Middle school.

Meredith Probst, SNAP-Ed:

-Partners in Produce: acquired 54,991 lbs of produce and distributed to approx. 35 sites included local food pantries, summer youth nutrition programs, and local agencies.

-Deer Donation: deer to date donated is 124 which equates to 29,760 lean protein meals.

Old Business:

1. Council Member Recruitment has resulted in three new Board members, plus a newly appointed County Board member.
2. Meeting schedule and format established during the June 2, 2022 meeting remains, quarterly meetings the first Thursday at 6 PM.
3. Civil Rights topic was tabled for future discussion.

New Business: Jessie McClusky led a session to help identify needs and gaps in local resources which Extension has the capacity to address which support the state priorities or “Grand Challenges”. Questions and discussion ensued. Following discussions, the group identified current strengths, areas for attention, and opportunities.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the meeting, Brenda Stone motioned the meeting to adjourn, seconded by Kelly Barringer. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55 PM.

Strengths	Areas of Improvement/Gaps	Opportunities
Deer program	Product (ag) to table, food prep versus ready made (how to make your own meals and not need frozen meals or fast food)	Growing Food
Food pantries	Not reaching urban kids	Preparing Food (wellness)
Food mobiles	Youth recruitment	FFA (SAE) to help with Community Gardens (deliver to pantries, garden work, pipeline to 4-H)
Deer program	Retention in 4-H programs	Familial 4-H events/programs
Horse show	Involvement in 4-H by children	Consider Grandparents as a target audience for youth programming (they look for opportunities to do activities with grandchildren)
Moultrie general shows	Loss of kids in livestock competition	Expansion into private schools, increase home school programming, before/after school programs
4-H fair program	Economic programs at schools	Mental Health
4-H programs	Getting all community schools on board with Extension	
Etiquette Program at HS	High School peer pressure prevention	
Youth contact through 4-H and school	Middle School peer pressure prevention	
Involvement with schools	Drug prevention program	
Welcome to the Real World program is great	General health and wellness programs	
Mental Health	Reaching people who do not have time (busy lives, but would benefit)	
Health Programs (informational)	Letting communities know about all the programs available (how to reach people)	
Articles in the newspaper (Cheri Burcham and David Shiley [retired from Extension now])	Market share of youth in each county	

Good partnerships with community	More effective communication to home school children	
Online programs for community	Fair book regulations for projects need to be followed and emphasized	
In person programs for community	Adult council members	
Workshops	Getting volunteers to help/lead	
Master Gardener programs	Some 4-H leaders are hard to work with	
Retiree Contact through programs/programs for older people		
Programs that help specific groups, such as farmers with well water systems		
Changing with the times		
4-H camp		
4-H conference		